120.

# GENUINE

# MEMOIRS

Of the LIFE of

# JOHN GRAHAM, *A.M.*

[Price SIX-PENCE.]

BRITISH MUSEUM

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# MEMOIRS
Of the LIFE of
# *John Graham*, A. M.

(Late of the UNIVERSITY of GLASGOW, and some Time Master of a Boarding School near *London*)

Who was capitally convicted at the *Old Bailey*, *September* 14, 1782,

For a Forgery upon the BANK of ENGLAND:

Giving a particular Account of the various Methods made uſe of for circulating the counterfeit Notes throughout ENGLAND, *&c.*

To which are added

The ARGUMENTS made uſe of by the COUNSEL reſpecting the Plea of JANET GRAHAM, his Wife, to be exempt from Puniſhment, as acting under the Influence of her Huſband.

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THERE is no ſtation in life, let it be ever ſo elevated, that can ſecure men from miſery and infamy, unleſs the fear of GOD is implanted in the mind, and virtue regulates every part of the conduct. The actions of men are not to be aſcribed to Divine Providence as the primary cauſe, altho' inſeparably connected with it in the event. Freedom of will is the diſtinguiſhing characteriſtic of human nature; and in its exertions

points out the difference between men and the brute creation, who live by inſtinct. Fine natural abilities, improved by a liberal education, are to an unprincipled man the ſame as beauty to a proſtitute. Both are objects of eſteem and veneration while they continue in the paths of virtue, and both are forſaken and deſpiſed when vice becomes the predominant paſſions in the mind. The poor ignorant man goes through the world in ſafety, truſting in his integrity; while the learned ſcholar, who is a ſlave to vice, brings diſhonour on his family, and ruin upon himſelf. Numerous inſtances of this nature occurs daily; but few perhaps equal to what we ſhall here preſent to the reader, in the following narrative.

JOHN GRAHAM, was born in the county of Perth, in Scotland, in 1734. His father was a reputable farmer, and one of the elders of the pariſh where he lived; and this John being his only ſon, he was deſigned for the miniſtry. During his early youth he made conſiderable progreſs in Latin and Greek, at the Grammar-ſchool, and became ſo familiarly acquainted with the claſſic authors, that he was frequently conſulted by learned men in his neighbourhood, concerning diſputed paſſages.

A rapid

A rapid progreſs in learning generally endears young men to thoſe advanced in years, and often points out the road for their future progreſs through life, under ſuch numerous advantages, that nothing leſs than ſome latent evil can prevent them from making a diſtinguiſhing figure.

In 1752 he was ſent to the univerſity of Glaſgow; where, in the compaſs of one year, he went through a complete courſe of philological learning with ſo much applauſe, that he became the firſt of the claſs; for there were but few beauties, either in the Greek or Roman claſſics, but he could at any time turn to, without conſulting the authors. The two ſubſequent years he ſpent in the ſtudy of logic and moral philoſophy, under the celebrated Dr. Smith, and ſoon after his father dying, he was under the neceſſity of leaving the univerſity, without taking his degrees according to the rules preſcribed for ſtudents.

During theſe three years he was in the univerſity, he ſpent his leiſure hours in ſtudying the polite arts, particularly muſic, in which he made more than ordinary progreſs. Being free and open in his converſation, his company

was much ſolicited by his fellow ſtudents; and when he left the univerſity, every one who knew him wiſhed for his return; but his narrow and confined circumſtances prevented him.

In 1756, when he was only twenty-two years of age, he was obliged to accept of the place of private tutor to the ſon of a gentleman in the ſouth of Scotland, where he ſpent three years, and then accompanied his pupil to the univerſity of Glaſgow. When he arrived the ſecond time at that learned ſeminary, his uncommon abilities began to diſplay themſelves in the moſt ſhining manner; and the learned Mr. Moore, then profeſſor of greek, employed him during his leiſure hours as an aſſiſtant. Patient and indefatigable in the diſcharge of his duty, he continued at the univerſity till his pupil had completed his ſtudies, and along with him he took the degree of Maſter of Arts. For his integrity in this ſervice he received a conſiderable gratuity, and was recommended to another family of rank, as a tutor to their ſon in the univerſity of Edinburgh.

In 1760 Mr. Graham was elected maſter of the grammar-ſchool in the town of Kilmarnock, and along with it he enjoyed the place of

of precentor or clerk to the pariſh. In Scotland the maſterſhip of a grammar-ſchool is for life, and generally given to young probationers for the miniſtry; nor were the people deceived in the choice they had made of this unfortunate perſon.

Adorned with every qualification for a teacher, his ſchool ſoon roſe into conſiderable repute, and gentlemen of the firſt rank ſent their ſons to be educated by him; for his manner was engaging, and his pupils received his inſtructions from motives of love, rather than fear.

Being thus well ſettled in a reputable line of buſineſs, he turned his thoughts towards the married ſtate, and paid his addreſſes to a young gentlewoman, the daughter of a reputable farmer near Douglas, in Lanerkſhire. He obtained her conſent, and that of her relations, and ſhe is now the unfortunate partner in his ſufferings.

As his wife was of an engaging temper and affable diſpoſition, the ſchool continued to encreaſe; and Mr. Graham found his houſe filled with genteel boarders, ſome of w[illegible] were ſons of gentlemen in America.

[illegible]r.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham lived in their native country in the moſt reputable manner till they had nine children; eight of whom, with one born ſince they came to London, are ſtill alive. Children, who from their comely appearance and ſweet temper, might be an ornament to any family in the world. But who can foreſee future events? How many temptations are we daily ſurrounded by? Even the pleaſant paths of virtue cannot at all times ſcreen us from danger, unleſs we are continually upon our guard.

Sometime in the year 1779, Mr. Graham unfortunately became acquainted with a miſcreant fellow, an adventurer and ſharper; who, under the pretence of being a man of fortune, cheated many induſtrious honeſt perſons of their all. This fellow, whoſe name is H—r, failed for a conſiderable ſum, and would have been puniſhed for a cheat, had he not made his eſcape to London; and to finiſh our account of him, he was provided for in the Eaſt-India houſe by the intereſt of a certain Baronet.

No ſooner was this fellow ſettled in London, than he began a correſpondence with the unfortunate Graham, with whom he had ſome connec-

connections before; for it is certain Graham had aſſiſted him in making his eſcape.

The import of the correſpondence (for I have ſeen ſome of the letters) on H——r's ſide, conſiſted in preſſing Graham to remove from Kilmarnock, and take a boarding-ſchool near London; deceiving him by falſe repreſentations of the advantages that could be obtained by embracing a propoſal of ſuch a flattering nature.

It is certain that Mr. Graham's connections with this fellow had done him no honour, for he had loſt many of friends, nor was there one in Kilmarnock who had ſo much compaſſion for his family as to warn him to be upon his guard. A man of common ſenſe would have told him, that to have ſucceeded in a boarding-ſchool near London he muſt have left his native country in his youth; for when a man is advanced above forty years, and has ſpent all his time in his native country, he is very improper to ſettle among ſtrangers, with whoſe manners and cuſtoms he is unacquainted.

But there are fatal periods when men will ruſh, for the hopes of gain, precipitately upon their own deſtruction. Under ſuch infatuation the

the beſt advice would ſignify but little, and probably Mr. Graham would have rejected that of the beſt of his friends—but he had none left.

Like Alnaſacar in the fable, he fancied himſelf already poſſeſſed of great riches, by being placed at the head of an Engliſh boarding-ſchool, and in an evil hour he was over-perſuaded to remove from a place where he was happily ſettled, and might have brought up his children uſeful members of ſociety.

From an attentive conſideration of the following circumſtances, it will appear that Mr. Graham was far from being in a diſtreſſed ſituation at the time he formed the fatal reſolu- of removing from Kilmarnock. He had ſo many books, and ſuch a variety of houſhold furniture, that he ſpent one whole week in ſelling them off by auction, for which he received a conſiderable ſum. He then hired a coach, and ſet out with his wife, eight children, and one ſervant maid. Thoſe who are acquainted with travelling expences will be convinced, that to defray the whole during a journey of upwards of four hundred miles, muſt be equal to what is ſpent by ſome of our nobility and gentry.

In Auguſt 1780, he arrived in London, and lived ſome weeks at the houſe of a brother-in-law, who kept a ſchool near Mary-le-bone. The October following he took the boarding-ſchool at Pancras-Wells, at which time there was not more than ſix ſcholars belonging to it, owing, it is was ſaid, to the maſter's total unqualification for an undertaking of that nature. Graham, however, truſting to his own abilities, without conſidering that even the moſt conſpicuous merit is ſeldom rewarded, while ignorance and impudence is too frequently ſeen to reign in triumph.

Now it was that Graham began to know, by experience, what he had never ſufficiently noticed before, *viz.* the neceſſary expences conſequently attendant upon the proper management of an Engliſh boarding-ſchool. However, having a very large family of his own, in order to act with oeconomy, never engaged ſuch reſpectable ſervants for the management of his domeſtic affairs as might have turned both to his advantage and his reputation, but employed raw and in-experienced female ſervants of his own country, whoſe appearance in dreſs about his family was frequently too indelicate for Engliſh obſervers. Whether theſe circumſtances aroſe from a partial fondneſs to

his country we will leave the reader to judge; but the manner of cloathing his children in the Highland dreſs leaves us ſatisfied that our opinions were well founded in that particular.

But the moſt ſerious matter was ſtill in embrio, though it diſcloſed itſelf long before Mr. Graham was provided for it. The different tradeſmen who had ſupplied his houſe with common neceſſaries, having ſent in their bills made frequent applications for payment, but without effect. His creditors becoming exceeding clamorous, and being totally deſtitute of the proper means of diſcharging them, he was under the neceſſity of giving them ſeveral articles of his houſhold furniture as a collateral ſecurity, to one of whom he gave an organ and ſix feather beds. Notwithſtanding he had found this temporary means of ſatisfying ſome of his tradeſmen, two actions were commenced againſt him by perſons from whom he had borrowed money; and although he procured bail, found himſelf ſo diſagreeably ſituated in his circumſtances before he had been ten months at Pancras, that he formed the fatal reſolution of committing a forgery upon the Bank of England, which he attempted by the following means: ruminating one day upon his diſtreſſed ſituation, he went into a houſe in the Rules of the Fleet-

Priſon,

Priſon, where happening to enter into converſation with an engraver, he employed him to engrave a Ten Pound Bank Note. The engraver was a priſoner in the Fleet, and as it is well known that moſt of theſe gentry (to uſe their own expreſſion) know how to *err on the ſafe ſide*, he took what money he could from Graham, and as ſoon as the plate was finiſhed, in order to ſave his own neck, went and gave information to a city magiſtrate; upon which Graham was apprehended, and brought to his Trial at the Old-Bailey in October 1781; but as none of the notes had been iſſued, he eſcaped with his life, and was only ſentenced to ſix months impriſonment.

So narrow an eſcape from a capital puniſhment it ſhould have been thought would have for ever deterred him from ſuch practices; but no ſooner was he at liberty than he formed the deſperate reſolution of committing new forgeries upon the Bank, upon a plan different from what he had ever practiſed before; into this fatal ſnare he led his wife, and made her a principal in his guilt; but there is too much reaſon to imagine ſhe was fond of making appearances in a gay life, without fear of the conſequences attending ſuch unwarrantable means for its ſupport.

Inſtead of engraviug plates for notes, he contrived to alter the value of genuine ones, by eraſing the letters *e e n* out of a *Fifteen* Pound Bank note, and introducing a *y* in order to make them paſs for a *Fifty*, which was executed in ſuch an artful manner, that many of them were in circulation before any ſuſpicions of the fraud aroſe. But as detection was to be apprehended in London, Graham and his wife having by this means procured plenty of money, ſet off into different parts of the country, and for ſome time they had great ſucceſs.

The method they uſed for circulating them was as follow: when they came to a large market town they put up at an inn, and Mrs. Graham went with one of the notes to a ſilver-ſmith's ſhop, where ſhe purchaſed either a watch or ſome piece of plate, and paid for, at the ſame time receiving the balance for a *Fifty* Pound Bank Note. In this manner they proceeded through ſeveral towns in different parts of the kingdom, and frequently returned to London to ſpend a few days along with their younger children, the three eldeſt having been placed at a boarding ſchool near Guildford, in Surry.

As they had ſome friends in London, and thoſe of fair character, it is ſurpriſing that they never hinted their ſuſpicions to them; for ſuſpicions they muſt have had, becauſe they knew that while Graham was a priſoner in Newgate for the firſt offence, his wife and children had ſubſiſted on charity. But nothing of that nature was ever hinted ſo far as can be known, becauſe their relations perſiſt in denying their ever having had any ſuſpicions; a circumſtance which few will believe, were it even atteſted on oath, in the moſt ſolemn manner.

Their laſt journey was from London, through Surry, Hampſhire, and Suſſex, and notes were changed in every town through which they paſſed; but they had ſtill a ſufficiency in reſerve.

During the laſt aſſizes at Wincheſter, they put up at an inn in that city, and Mrs. Graham went to a watch-maker's ſhop, where ſhe purchaſed a metal watch for ſix guineas, and offered a *Fifty* pound note for change. The ſhopkeeper had not the money but went out to procure it, and ſo regardleſs was ſhe of detection, that ſhe gave him her direction, and he brought the change to the inn.

They

They remained all night at the inn, and next morning Graham went to the caſtle to viſit *Tyrie*, who was lately executed for high treaſon at Portſmouth. This was a fatal reſolution; but their career was now drawing to a cloſe.

By this time ſome of the notes had been ſtopped at the Bank, and a general hue and cry had been raiſed to apprehend the perſons who had publiſhed them. It does not appear that the ſuſpicion had as yet fallen upon Graham; for although his perſon was well known, yet he had not paſſed any of them himſelf, having always made uſe of his wife for that purpoſe; and as ſhe had never viſited him while he was in confinement, ſo perſons had not any ſuſpicions of her. Indeed ſhe appeared in ſuch an elegant ſtile of dreſs, that it was no difficult matter for her to carry on the deception; for what country ſhopkeeper would ſuſpect a lady who travelled in her poſt chaiſe, and ſpent her money as if ſhe was a woman of faſhion. Nor did ſhe ever change her name; ſhe always ſigned it at large on the notes before ſhe paſſed them, an act in itſelf ſo artful, that although for ſome time it might paſs unnoticed, yet it ſerved to fix the guilt upon her in the end.

It is well known that during the aſſizes in the country moſt of the turnkeys belonging to the London priſons are there; and as Graham was well known, a Mr. Wright, belonging to Tothill-Fields bridewell, knew him as he returned from viſiting Tyrie in the caſtle. He followed him home to the inn, where he charged both him and his wife with the forgery, and they were committed to priſon. People were ſent down to examine them, and they were brought to London by writ of *habeas corpus*. Graham was lodged in Newgate, among the common felons, but his wife was kept in New Priſon at the expence of the Bank, who allowed her two guineas *per* week till the trial.

During the firſt weeks of their confinement, they flattered themſelves that they would be acquitted, becauſe Graham had never been ſeen in the forgery; and his wife ſheltered herſelf under the ſuppoſition that ſhe would be acquitted becauſe ſhe had acted by her huſband's directions. Nay ſo confident was ſhe of this, that ſhe ſent to Scotland for the certificate of her marriage. However, it turned out the reverſe, for the jury found them both guilty, and they received ſentence of death, only that Mrs. Graham was recommended to mercy. During

their

their trial, they mutually upbraided each other, which rather injured them, as there was no poſſibility of acquiting them of the guilt.

From the fate of theſe perſons we may make the following obſervations: *Firſt*, Neither natural abilities, nor a liberal education, are ſufficient to ſcreen men from the power of temptation, unleſs the love of virtue and the fear of GOD regulates their conduct. *Secondly*, Wickedneſs and weakneſs go hand in hand together; and the unguarded ones generally plunge into ruin, before they know where to ſtop. *Laſtly*, A too eager deſire to procure riches generally defeats its own intention. Riches are generally acquired in a ſlow prudent manner; but when men ſeek for affluence all at once, they generally bring ſhame and ruin on themſelves and their families.

END of the MEMOIRS.

# Genuine Account of the Proceedings upon the Trial.

THE Indictment ſet forth that JOHN GRAHAM and JANE his Wife ſtood charged with having on the 8th day of June laſt, at the Pariſh of St. Margaret's, Weſtminſter, having in their poſſeſſion a certain Bank Note, No. K. 87. ſigned John Benet, entered W. Rawlins, for the Sum of 15l. did felonioufly alter the ſame, by obliterating and defacing the letters *e*, *e*, *n*, and falſely forging and counterfeiting the letter *y* in two places in the ſaid Bank Note, whereby the ſaid Bank Note did become, import, and ſignify 50 l. with intent to defraud the Governor and Company of the Bank of England.

*Second Count* charging it with intent to defraud Carey Boucher and Chriſtopher Alderſon.

*Third Count* for felonioufly uttering and publiſhing the ſaid note, knowing it to be forged and altered with intent to defraud.

(The priſoner John objected to the indictment as having an error in it, his wife's name being Janet inſtead of Jane; but he was informed by the court, that having pleaded in chief he could not plead in abatement, but that if he had not pleaded, the privilege would only have been momentary, as another indictment could have immediately been preferred)

Mr. Fielding ſtated the indictment, and Mr. Howarth, counſel for the crown, opened the caſe to the jury in the following manner: Gentlemen, I am counſel againſt the two priſoners, who ſtand charged with forging and altering a bank note, and with diſpoſing and putting off

that bank note ſo forged and altered, knowing of its being forged and counterfeited. The policy of the law, in order to correct a miſchief ſo extremely injurious to the public credit, has made each of thoſe offences a capital felony; it will be the object therefore of your inquiry, to judge from evidence whether both of them, or each of them, have committed either of theſe offences imputed to them in the indictment: perhaps in defence of the priſoner Jane Graham, it may be argued ſhe is a married woman, and charged as the wife of the priſoner John, therefore intitled, in point of law, to ſome privilege which will protect her from the guilt of which ſhe is charged. It behoves me to ſtate to you ſubject to the correction of the court, what I conceive to be the law in that caſe; I take the extent of ſuch rule, if there is any ſuch rule laid down, is this, where a married woman, in company of her huſband, commits a larceny, and nothing more appears than that ſhe was in company of her huſband, at the commiſſion of that offence, there a preſumption is raiſed from the humanity of the law, to ſuppoſe, that the woman committed that offence under the dominion and authority of her huſband; but that, as well as any other preſumption, can only ſtand till there is a proof to the contrary; for I take it to be equally clear, that if from the evidence it ſhould appear, that the married woman was the active perſon, and acted without the controul or interference of her huſband, it would be clear in point of law, that ſhe was involved in the ſame degree of guilt; if it ſhould appear, that it was not in the preſence of the huſband but diſtinct from him, I take it to be clear, that a woman in that ſituation has no privilege whatever; this I conceive is the law on the ſubject; the forgery now charged on the priſoner is, that of altering a bank note which originally iſſued from the bank, a bank note of 15l. and by that alteration producing the operation and effect of a note of 50l. the

manner

manner in which that has been effected has been this: it has been contrived by ſome method or another, to diſcharge the double *e e*, and *n*, from the word fifteen, both in the body of the note and the black letters of the note, and to ſubſtitute in their place the letter *y*, by which theſe two words appear to be fifty, the fraud on the public is juſt that ſum between fifteen and fifty; I ſhall ſtate to you very ſhortly what will be the evidence that will be laid before you, in order to ſatisfy you that the priſoners have been gulty of that offence. The priſoner has ſtated, that from the number of counſel who appear againſt him, he has ſome reaſon to be alarmed; I would eaſe him of that fear, becauſe every body knows, that the only uſe that is at this time of day made of counſel in criminal proſecutions, is merely to ſtate, with a little more accuracy, the facts, in order to ſhew immediately their connection to each other, and to diſentangle them from that degree of obſcurity which they would receive coming irregularly from the mouths of witneſſes; on that they are to draw their own concluſions, and to form their own judgment, therefore, I truſt, the priſoner will be eaſed of any alarm of that ſort; I ſhall diſcharge my duty ſimply in ſtating that evidence, and you will draw the concluſions.

The priſoner, John Graham, was in April laſt diſcharged from confinement; his circumſtances were to the laſt degree neceſſitous; at that time he had lived for many years with the woman at the bar, who is called Jane Graham, his wife; they have, I believe, a large family of children; immediately upon his diſcharge, he had formed this ſcheme, which I am ſorry to ſay, had been in his contemplation ſome time before. In his judgment, this mode of fraud upon the public was the moſt eaſily effected: it being neceſſary in order to carry it into execution, that he ſhould be furniſhed with letters of different ſorts, in order to complete his forgery; for that purpoſe he applied himſelf to a Mr.

Rayner, who was foreman to a Mr. Caſlon, who is famous in this town as an engraver; Caſlon recommended him to Mr. Hodgſon, who is an engraver on wood, and ſtated to be a perſon very likely to furniſh him with ſuch letters as he ſhould want. On the 8th of May the priſoner, John Graham, applied to Hodgſon to have the letter *y* cut for him, to produce the effect of white on a black ground, ſo as to reſemble the letters on the bottom of a bank-note; Hodgſon ſaid it is not likely to produce the effect, for you muſt have a little printers ink, and that will daub the books. The priſoner ſaid they were for a whimſical gentleman, and accordingly they were cut for him; he called and paid Hodgſon for them, and took them away; ſome time after he called again, and ſaid theſe letters did not quite anſwer his purpoſe, and ſaid he wanted ſome numbers, as 2, 3, 5, 20, 30, and ſo on: reſpecting the letter *y*, I ſhall produce to you the papers marked by the priſoner, and the alterations he wiſhed to be made reſpecting the letter *y*; a number of letters were cut and figures made by Mr. Hodgſon, which were called for and took away by the priſoner Jane, the wife. When you inſpect the letter *y* upon the note produced to you, and compare it with the letter *y* produced to you, and the copy of that Hodgſon has engraved, ſupported by Hodgſon's evidence, it will appear to you beyond doubt, that the alteration and forgery in this bank-note, was made by means of this letter engraved by Hodgſon, under the direction and order of the priſoner; and alſo that the priſoner John took away and had poſſeſſion of this letter; ſhortly after this we find theſe notes ſo altered and put in circulation; here there appears to be conſiderable art in John. In no one inſtance is he to be connected with the putting off theſe notes; the whole of that is left to the conduct and management of the woman; and there is no inſtance in which he can be connected with the putting off any of theſe notes. On the 8th of June, the note was put off by the priſoner Jane; ſhe went to the ſhop of a Mr. Alderſon, Silk-Mercer, in Bridge-Street, Weſtminſter, where after having bargained for ſome things, ſhe put off to him one of the forged notes, altered from 15l. to 50l. that note will be traced very accurately, ſo as to leave no doubt, and brought

brought home to the priſoner Jane, negociated by her; in a very few days after it was diſcovered this note was a forgery; and upon taking it to the Bank, it was found that a note of that letter, No. and date, had been iſſued of 15l. but none of 50l. conſequently from that circumſtance, without more, they were perfectly ſatiſfied that this was a forged note. There could be no ſuch note iſſued from the Bank; the inattention of the perſons taking the note is wonderful, as there is ſuch a ſpace between the letter *y* and the pounds, that they muſt with a little attention have ſeen it: this cauſed an alarm as you may eaſily conceive, and the officers of the Bank, in endeavouring to trace the offender, had diſcovered that the priſoner had been obſerved to be full of money, and putting off notes, and buying goods; but though the moſt diligent ſearch was making after him, he was diſcovered by accident. A Mr. Wright fortunately ſaw the two priſoners alight out of a poſt-chaiſe at Wincheſter, and they were apprehended at Southampton. It will be unneceſſary for me to ſtate to you the number of notes, but I have proof it amounted to eight, as appears by the confeſſion of the priſoner Jane on her examination. On the morning of their being apprehended at Southampton, their trunk was opened and ſearched, on ſearching that, the ſum of ninety and odd guineas, and a 15l. bank-note was found; the money in the trunk, the 15l. note in the pocket of the priſoner. In that trunk was alſo found a great number of experiments on thin paper, made to imitate bank-paper, with letters of this kind of ground, and the impreſſion of the ſtamps cut by Hodgſon the engraver; alſo a box of paſte, and a little bruſh, for the purpoſe of paſting letters on, when the letters *e e n* were diſcharged from the real bank-note; they then paſted a thin letter *y* on this paper in their place; then they paſted a bit of thin paper as if it had been worn by carriage. On John was found a 15l. bank-note, on which, as it is ſtated to me, an attempt had been made to diſcharge the letters *e e n* in the body of the note, and it did not quite ſucceed; the paper ſeemed to have ſuffered in the operation, and be made very thin; in the back of that note are figures caſt up for the purpoſe of hiding the operation, which appears to be cut exactly

in

in the ſame manner as theſe circulated by the woman. From theſe circumſtances you will draw what concluſions you think fit. This will be the nature of the evidence laid before you; on this evidence, in the firſt place, it will appear clear that there has been a forgery on the bank-note committed by ſomebody. The queſtion then is, By whom is that forgery committed? In order to ſatisfy you that the forgery was committed by the priſoners, or at leaſt by one of them, you ſhall have the evidence of Hodgſon, who will ſtate to you that the priſoner was put by him in poſſeſſion of letters capable of effecting that alteration; and that that alteration was effected by means of theſe letters you cannot doubt, whon I produce to you the pieces of paper in black and white, found in the box of the priſoners, in which theſe correſponding letters are found to be marked; I conceive that no doubts can remain that the forgery was occaſioned by theſe letters, and by the poſſeſſor of theſe letters. Crimes of this ſort are always committed in ſecret, where there is no eye to ſee; we can only judge of them by probability. The forgery is as capable of commiſſion by the woman as the man: there is no greater degree of ingenuity or art in this forgery, when you are in poſſeſſion of the inſtruments that will make the letters, than to paſte with great neatneſs the letter *y* where the letters *e e n* ſtood before. With reſpect to the other offence, the diſpoſing and uttering theſe notes, you will obſerve, there is no evidence againſt John, except his being in company with this woman, ſtanding to him in the relation of wife, having cohabited together as man and wife for many years, and going together to Southampton; you are to judge whether he is not to be connected with her in the crime of diſpoſing of theſe notes. Gentlemen, theſe are the circumſtances of this caſe, which I ſhall leave with you. I ſhall call my witneſſes, and I truſt, when you have heard them, you will be convinced, that the priſoners are both of them guilty of the offence charged in the indictment.

THOMAS HODGSON, Printer and Wood-cutter, in George's Court, Clerkenwell, was the firſt evidence ſworn. He recollected the priſoner John Graham calling upon him ſome time in May laſt, to get two letters cut in wood

wood; he told the witneſs they were for a whimſical gentleman in the country, to mark his books where the authors names ended with a *y*: he likewiſe ſaid the gentleman would want ſome figures, as 1, 2, 3, 4. He cut the two letters, and was paid 1s. each for them; alſo the numbers to the amount of 20, (and made proofs of them) for which he had 2s. each. A paper with proofs being ſhewn the witneſs, ſaid they were made with his own hand, and the priſoner had them from him. Some time after he came again with freſh directions, but ſome uncertainty having ariſen which way the tails of the *y*'s were to be turned, he ſaid he would write to the gentleman, and deſired the witneſs would leave them unfiniſhed, and ſaid he would call in two or three days, which he did, and gave orders for finiſhing them; he ſaid his ſervant ſhould call for them, being obliged to be out of town himſelf: a woman did call for them, which was the priſoner at the bar.

*Mr.* ALDERSON, a Mercer, in Bridge-Street, Weſtminſter, recollected Jane Graham, the priſoner at the bar, coming to his houſe on the 8th of June, about Seven o'clock in the evening, and deſired to ſee ſome quilted ſattin coats, which were ſhewn to her, and ſhe fixed upon one; ſhe ſaid ſhe had a bank bill of 50l. to change, and ſhewed it him; he ſaid he would change it; ſhe then deſired to ſee ſome ſilks, and fixed on one. The goods came to 6l. 12s. he changed the note, and gave her two 15l. notes, and the remainder in caſh.

[The note was afterwards paid by Mr. Alderſon to a Mr. Capes, and given to his clerk, who carried it to Mr. Dorrien's, a banker, who refuſed it. Several clerks of the bank were ſworn, who proved that the note, in its original ſtate, was only iſſued as a 15l. note]

HENRY WRIGHT, one of the Turn-keys of Tothill-fields Bridewell, ſaid, That being at the George at Wincheſter on the 11th of July laſt, he obſerved a Poſt-chaiſe to come in, and ſaw Mr. and Mrs. Graham come out of it; ſhe was dreſſed in a ſcarlet riding dreſs, and had a hair trunk. When he came to London, he mentioned to his maſter, the governor of Tothill-fields Bridewell, where he had ſeen them, and had orders to go in purſuit of them. They were apprehended at the Coach and Horſes in Southampton; Mrs. Graham was ſearched,

but

but nothing particular was found upon her; on him was found a 15l. bank note, and on a table 31 guineas and a half in gold. When he was secured, ſhe was aſked what ſhe had done with the hair trunk, ſhe ſaid ſhe had ſent it away; but upon enquiry it was found up one pair of ſtairs in a bed-room, which Mrs. Graham had the key of in her pocket. When the trunk was opened, he found a little gallipot of paſte, a paper with 69 guineas and 2 half guineas, ſome paper and ſome ſtamps; ſhe was very deſirous to put her hand in, but was prevented. There was a great deal of wearing apparel in the trunk, which was claimed by Mr. Graham, with the money.

The PRISONERS being called upon for their defence, he ſaid, My lord, and gentlemen of the jury: we had ſeven witneſſes here this day, who would have ſpoken to many particulars that would have ſufficiently have proved our innocence; of theſe witneſſes we are deprived, but by what means I cannot comprehend; they were a ſhort time ago in the lord-mayor's parlour, and were ſeen by Mr. Wilſon; ſince which they have all been ordered to go away, contrary to our knowledge; they would have proved the meaning of the ſtamps. I had a commiſſion to procure them for a gentleman in Thames-Street, to be ſent to a Mr. O'Hara, of Dublin. I delivered the ſtamps to the gentleman, who if he had been called here would have acknowledged it. The notes likewiſe could have been accounted for by reſpectable witneſſes, houſeholders, two of whom met Mrs. Graham, and the other came up in the courſe of finding them. Being deprived of our witneſſes we are ſold. The gentlemen who are to judge of the matter are men of honour and virtue, our confidence therefore is in Almighty God and them. Gentlemen, this is for the laſt ſtake of our lives; we are the parents of ten children, nine of whom are now alive, we therefore hope the jury will do us juſtice.

*The jury after being out* 10 *Minutes brought them in Both G ilty,* DEATH.

(The Attorney for the Priſoner informed the Court, AFTER THE VERDICT, that when the Witneſſes came to him, and he had heard their ſtory, he was well ſatisfied in his mind, that whatever they could prove with reſpect to finding the notes was an abſolute falſity; and that they were ſuch witeſſes as he would never introduce to any court and the priſoners counſel ſaid he adviſed him not to call any witneſſes)

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